Cuyahoga Valley National Park Volunteer Program Building a Community of Park Stewards



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Celebrate RiverDay by Restoring Habitat in Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Brecksville, Ohio – On Saturday, May 17, the public is invited to become national park stewards at the RiverDay event in Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP). This Day of Service offers projects to help maintain the health of the Cuyahoga River watershed. Volunteers can choose from the following projects:

- Plant native wildflowers and grasses. You'll help restore CVNP's native habitat, as well as plant species that attract butterflies and other important pollinators to the area. Kids age 7 and up are welcome to attend with parent or guardian supervision.
- **Remove invasive species**. You'll use hand tools (loppers and saws) to remove harmful invasive shrubs, such as honeysuckle and autumn olive, and make room for native species to grow. Kids age 10 and up are welcome to attend with parent or guardian supervision.
- Collect trash from the Cuyahoga Valley floodplain. You'll ensure that the Cuyahoga River and its tributaries remain free of trash that may have washed downstream over the winter. Kids age 10 and up are welcome to attend with parent or guardian supervision.

Locations for each project will be provided after registration. Projects take place rain or shine, but not during thunderstorms or lightning. Tools and instructions will be provided. Projects are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For details and to register, visit <u>www.nps.gov/cuva</u> and click Volunteer or contact the volunteer office at 330-657-2299.

CVNP's Volunteer-in-Parks program is proud to be a partner of Friends of the Crooked River and the 24th Annual RiverDay. We are grateful to National Park Conservation Association and EarthFare for their partnership and support of these volunteer projects in CVNP.

About Cuyahoga Valley National Park's Volunteers-in-Parks Program

CVNP's VIP program is co-managed by the National Park Service and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Together, they accomplish park goals through mutually beneficial volunteer experiences and engage people in the park, building a community of park stewards. Currently 6,300 VIPs donate 209,000 hours to provide the highest level of quality services to park visitors and to help protect America's heritage.

To join these volunteers in making a difference at CVNP, contact the volunteer office at volunteer@forcvnp.org, 330-657-2299, or visit conservancyforcvnp.org. Many opportunities are available and training is provided.

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